



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Idaho Dry Bean Production Up 14 Percent from Last Year

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Idaho's 2005 dry edible bean production is expected to total 1.86 million cwt, up 14 percent from last year's production of 1.64 million cwt. Planted acreage of 100,000 and harvested acreage of 98,000 increased from last year's 80,000 acres planted and 78,000 acres harvested. Average yield is expected to be 1,900 pounds per acre, down 200 pounds from the previous year.

Pinto production increased from last year, and continues to account for the largest portion of Idaho's crop with 35.3 percent of Idaho's production. Pink production accounted for 15.0 percent of all production. Small red production accounted for 10.4 percent of production. Chickpea (garbanzo) production again had the largest increase from the 2005 crop, accounting for 17.7 percent of the total. The majority of chickpea production was the large type. Navy production accounted for 7.3 percent. Great northern and black production each accounted for 2.7 percent of Idaho's production. Small white's, light red kidneys, dark red kidneys, cranberries, and other classes made up the remaining dry edible bean production in Idaho. Of the 12 classes of dry edible beans estimated for Idaho during 2005, great northern, small white, cranberry, and black posted production losses. All other classes posted production gains.

Nationally, production of dry edible beans is estimated at 27.2 million cwt for 2005, up 4 percent from the October forecast and 53 percent above last year. Harvested area is forecast at 1.57 million acres, 3 percent above the last forecast and up 29 percent from 2004. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,731 pounds per acre, an increase of 16 pounds from the October forecast and 272 pounds above a year ago. Production is above a year ago in 16 of the 17 producing States. Most notable production increases from last year are Minnesota up 111 percent, Colorado 91 percent higher, and North Dakota increasing 82 percent. Production is up from a year ago for large lima, baby lima, navy, great northern, pinto, light red kidney, dark red kidney, pink, small red, blackeye, and small and large chickpeas. Production decreased from last year for small white, cranberry, and black.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.

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